

N.A. NEKRASOV



A MAN THE
SIZE OF A NAIL

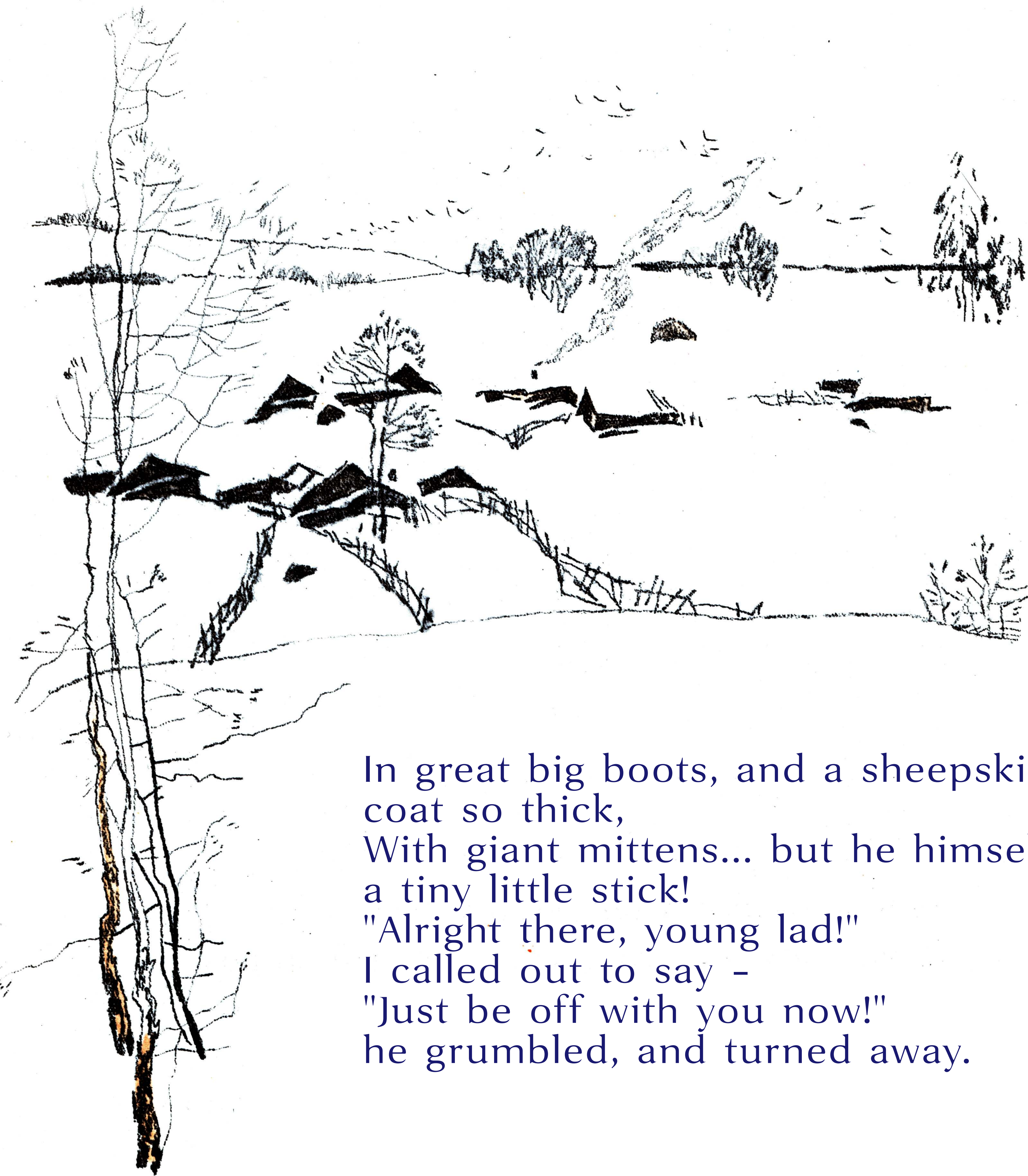




One frosty winter's day, so cold and grand,
I stepped right out from the forest land.
The frost was nipping, a proper big chill,

Then look! I saw a little pony,
climbing slowly up the hill,
Pulling a great big pile of branches,
a bundle of twigs so wide.

And walking ever so grandly, with quiet,
steady stride,
A little peasant chap, leading the pony right
by its bridle!



In great big boots, and a sheepskin
coat so thick,
With giant mittens... but he himself,
a tiny little stick!
"Alright there, young lad!"
I called out to say -
"Just be off with you now!"
he grumbled, and turned away.



You look a bit grumpy, I must say!"
I mumbled.

"Where'd you get the wood from?"

"Out of the forest, obviously!"

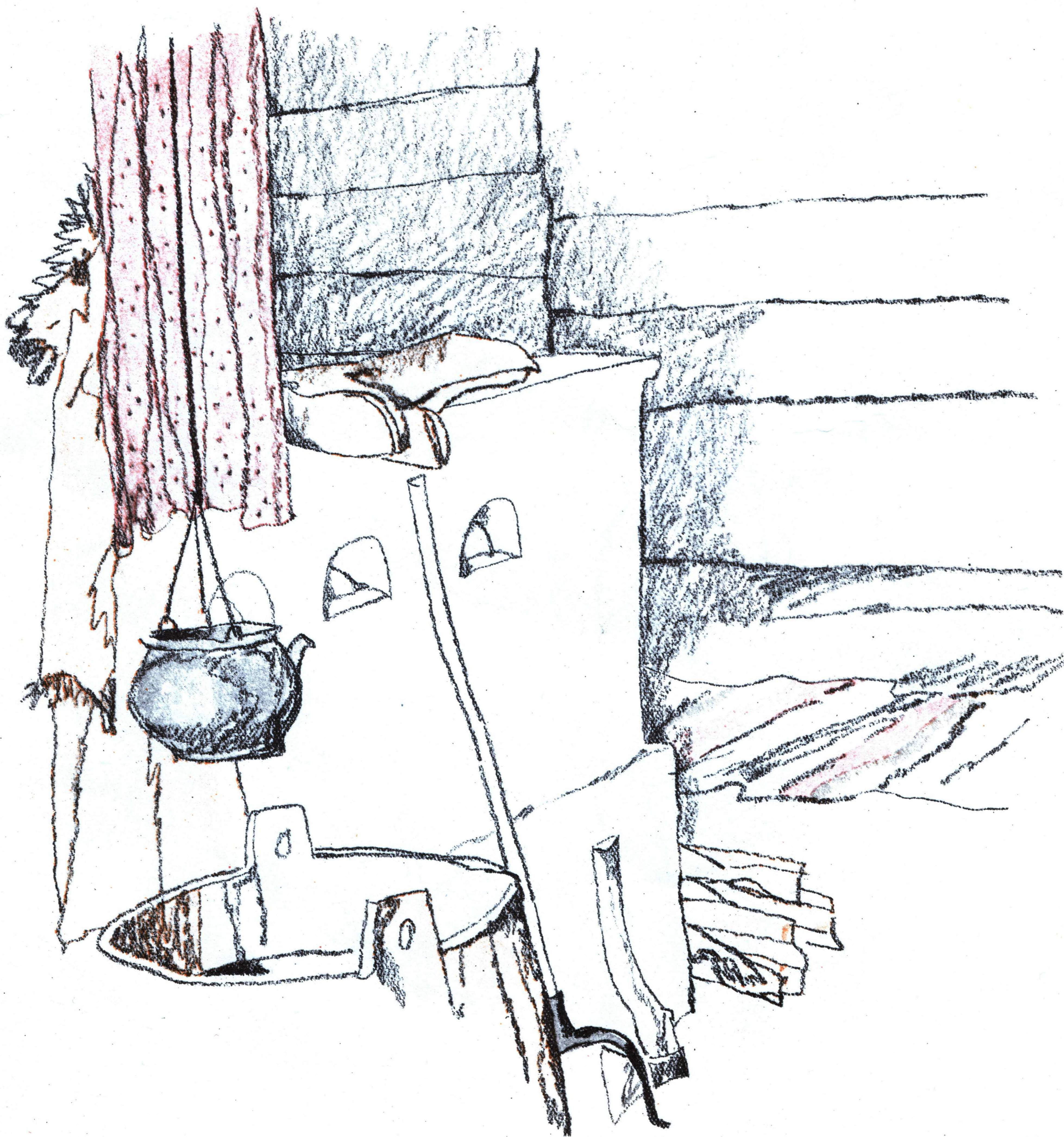
My dad, see, he's chopping, and I'm just
taking it away."

(In the woods, the woodcutter's axe could
be heard.)





"So, does your dad have a big family, then?"
"The family's big, alright, but only two fellas
Are proper men: my dad and me..."





"Well, fancy that! And what's your name, little chap?"

"Vlasov."

"And how old are you?" "Just turned six..."

"Right, come on, you!" the tiny lad roared in a deep voice,

He yanked on the bridle and quickened his stride.







МУЖИЧОК С НОГОТОК (A Little Peasant with a Fingernail)

Author: *Nikolay Alekseevich Nekrasov*

Target Audience: For younger schoolchildren

Illustrator: *V. Galyayeva*

Translator: *Damitr Mazanav*

Translation Editor: *Evgeny Spirin*

Originally Published in Russian by Malysh Publishers, 1974..

This English edition released on the web by

The Mir Titles Project, 2025.

<http://mirtitles.org>